

Testimony for OR Special Session 12.17.20

The only way to avoid a disaster for thousands of Oregonians is to continue the moratorium on evictions. The Legislature **MUST** make this happen in this Special Session!

Many people totally depend on their salaries to pay for their monthly basic needs; they don't have enough income to allow them to save up for emergencies. It is not their fault, of course, that their jobs disappeared because of the pandemic.

There are landlords who also count on rental income from their properties to pay for their basic needs. Of course some would be fine for a while without receiving this income, or not receiving from every tenant, but some can not do without it.

I myself own another house, which I rent out. After the first month of the close-down of jobs, the 3 young people who rent from me were able to send me full rent again. But if they were not able, I would **NEVER** have tossed them out; we would have worked something out. I am a senior citizen who does not have a job and counts on supplementing my monthly Social Security with this rental income. **BUT** I own my own house, with no mortgage, and have some savings; so I consider myself very lucky. Other landlords who are less secure should be compensated if their tenants are unable to pay them rent.

Oregon has way too many people who are already houseless. Certainly we cannot let COVID add to these numbers. **LC18** is the answer.

**LC10** is also very important. Restaurants, so essential to a city like Portland, must be assisted so that they don't have to close down for good. This is especially true for the many small businesses.

Please also pass **LC21** and **LC28**. Everyone counts on the Legislature to help people in need everywhere in Oregon.

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